

*AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS*

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of diagnosing ~~evaluating~~ acute aortic dissection, which comprises measuring a D-dimer concentration in blood separated from a human, and determining that acute aortic dissection has been possibly developed if the measured concentration is not lower than a D-dimer cutoff value in blood which is pre-established between acute aortic dissection and acute myocardial infarction.
2. (Currently Amended) A method of diagnosing ~~evaluating~~ acute aortic dissection, which comprises measuring a D-dimer concentration in blood separated from a human, and determining whether or not Stanford type A acute aortic dissection has developed, on the basis of the measured concentration.
3. (Currently Amended) A method of diagnosing ~~evaluating~~ acute aortic dissection, which comprises measuring a D-dimer concentration in blood separated from a human, and determining whether or not Stanford type B acute aortic dissection has developed, on the basis of the measured concentration.
4. (Currently Amended) A method of diagnosing ~~evaluating~~ acute aortic dissection, which comprises measuring a D-dimer concentration in blood separated from a human developing acute aortic dissection, and determining whether the developed acute aortic dissection is Stanford type A acute aortic dissection or Stanford type B acute aortic dissection, on the basis of the measured concentration.
5. (Original) A method of distinguishing between acute aortic dissection and acute myocardial infarction, which comprises measuring a D-dimer concentration in blood separated from a human having an episode of chest pain, and determining which disease has developed whether acute aortic dissection or acute myocardial infarction, on the basis of the measured concentration.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~distinguishing~~ method of claim 5, which comprises comparing the measured D-dimer concentration in blood and a D-dimer cutoff value in blood which is pre-established between acute aortic dissection and acute myocardial infarction, and determining that acute aortic dissection has developed if said concentration is not lower than said cutoff value, and acute myocardial infarction has developed if said concentration is lower than said cutoff value.

7. (Original) A method of distinguishing between acute aortic dissection and acute myocardial infarction, which comprises measuring a D-dimer concentration in blood separated from a human having an episode of chest pain, and determining which disease has developed whether Stanford type A acute aortic dissection, Stanford type B acute aortic dissection, or acute myocardial infarction, on the basis of the measured concentration.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~evaluation~~ method for ~~acute aortic dissection of any of claims 1 to 4~~ of claim 1, wherein the measurement of D-dimer concentration in blood is performed by an immunochemical method.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~evaluation~~ method of claim 8, wherein the immunochemical method is an enzyme immunochemical method, a latex aggregation method, or an immunochromatography method.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~distinguishing between acute aortic dissection and acute myocardial infarction of any of claims 5 to 7~~ of claim 5, wherein the measurement of D-dimer concentration in blood is performed by an immunochemical method.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~distinguishing~~ method of claim 10, wherein the immunochemical method is an enzyme immunochemical method, a latex aggregation method, or an immunochromatography method.

12 - 25. (Canceled)

26. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein the measurement of D-dimer concentration in blood is performed by an immunochemical method.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the immunochemical method is an enzyme immunochemical method, a latex aggregation method, or an immunochromatography method.

28. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein the measurement of D-dimer concentration in blood is performed by an immunochemical method.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the immunochemical method is an enzyme immunochemical method, a latex aggregation method, or an immunochromatography method.

30. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein the measurement of D-dimer concentration in blood is performed by an immunochemical method.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the immunochemical method is an enzyme immunochemical method, a latex aggregation method, or an immunochromatography method.

32. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the measurement of D-dimer concentration in blood is performed by an immunochemical method.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the immunochemical method is an enzyme immunochemical method, a latex aggregation method, or an immunochromatography method.